Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 BAGHDA 00796 111644Z ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W

-----111646Z 019684 /43

O 111111Z MAY 77 FM USINT BAGHDAD TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4536 INFO AMEMBASSY MADRID IMMEDIATE

SECRETBAGHDAD 0796

EXDIS

MADRID FOR ATHERTON IN SECRETARYS PARTY

E.O: 11652: XGDS-2 TAGS: PFOR, IZ, US

SUBJECT: IMPROVING RELATIONS WITH IRAQ

REFERENCE: (A) STATE 106070, (B) STATE 106058

- 1. REFTEL (A) DECODED AFTER CLOSE OF BUSINESS MAY 10. SAME EVENING I SAW CHIEF OF PROTOCOL USAMA KHALIL AT NATIONAL DAY RECEPTION AND MADE APPOINTMENT TO CALL ON HIM AT HIS OFFICE AT OPENING OF BUSINESS MAY 11.
- 2. IN MEETING WITH KHALIL ON MAY 11, I MENTIONED THAT ONE
 OF AMERICAN MEDICAL TEAM RECENTLY IN BAGHDAD HAD HAD MEETING
 WITH FONMIN MINISTER OF STATE HAMED ALWAN AL-JABOURI AT
 INSTRUCTIONS OF SADDAM HUSSEIN (BAGHDAD 742). I SAID THAT I
 NOW HAD AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE TO DELIVER TO HAMED ALWAN
 AS FOLLOWING TO THAT MEETING. I ALSO SAID IT WAS IMPORTANT
 THAT MESSAGE BE DELIVERED AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE. KHALIL
 RESPONDED ENTHUIASTICALLY AND SAID HE WOULD PERSONALLY
 GO TO HAMED ALWANS OFFICE TO ASK FOR THE APPOINTMENT
 AND LET ME KNOW THE RESULTS AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE.
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- 3. KHALIL CALLED ME WITHIN THE HOUR AND SAID MEETING HAD BEEN SET UP FOR 1200 ON SAME DAY.
- 4. I MET WITH ALWAN AT 1200 AND READ MESSAGE TO HIM AT DICTATION SPEED SO FONMIN NOTE TAKER WHO WAS ALSO PRESENT AT MEETING COULD RECORD IT WORD FOR WORD. IN LIGHT OF DEPTEL

106202, I CHANGED TEXT OF THIRD POINT TO READ $\,$ QUOTE A MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT CARTER TO DELIVER TO THE GOI UNQUOTE.

- 5. ALWAN WAS NON-COMMITAL BUT SAID HE WOULD SEE THAT IT WAS DELIVERED TO THE APPROPRIATE HIGHER AUTHORITIES AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE. I POINTED OUT THAT TIME WAS SHORT AND HE AGAIN PROMISED TO ACT QUICKLY AND INFORM ME OF GOI REPLY AS SOON AS HE RECEIVED INSTRUCTIONS FROM HIGHER AUTHORITY.
- 6. COMMENT: ATMOSPHERE OF MEETING WAS FRIENDLY BUT ISSUES INVOLVED WERE OBVIOUSLY TOO SERIOUS FOR ALWAN TO ADDRESS WITHOUT HIGHER LEVEL GUIDANCE. AS MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS, ALWAN IS SECOND RANKING MAN IN FOREIGN MINISTRY. AS FORMER SECRETARY IN SADDAM HUSSEINSI OFFICE HE IS PERSONALLY CLOSE TO SADDAM AND TO THE SENIOR BAATHI BAATHI HIERARCHY. BELIEVE HE IS IDEAL CHANNEL TO CONVEY REQUEST FOR HABIB MEETING TO SADDAM. HE MAY EVEN BYPASS FOREIGN MINISTER HAMMADI, WHO, IN ANY CASE FOR REASONS OF PERSONAL SECURITY, WOULD PROBABLY PREFER NOT TO BE INVOLVED IN EFFORT TO IMPROVE UNIFORM. SIERRA.-IRAQ RELATIONS.
- 7. CHIEF OF PROTOCOL KHALIL IS BEING UNUSUALLY RESPONSIVE TO OUR REQUESTS AS RESULT OF BROWNIE POINTS WE BUILT UP WITH HIM BY OUR PROMPT REACTION TO GOIS REQUEST FOR MEDICALS ASSISTANCE. HE HAD APPARENTLY GONE ON LIMB BY REQUESTING U.S. DOCTORS AGAINST OPPOSITION FROM OTHERS WITHIN FOREIGN MINISTRY. OUR IMPRESSIVE RESPONSE IMPROVED KHALILS STANDING WITH SADDAM HUSSEIN AND KHALIL IS NOW BEING PARTISECRET

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z

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Reference: 77 STATE 106070, 77 STATE 106058

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TAGS: PFOR, IZ, US

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